

CITY OF ELY

June 18th, 2011

209 E. Chapman St.
Ely, Minnesota 55731
218-365-3224

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket 11-65

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

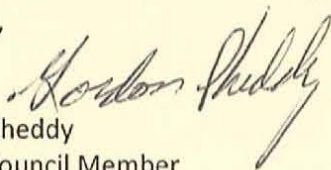
We've chosen as a family to live in the far Northern part of Minnesota because of our incredible natural environment, the people and the way of life. We moved here, and this is our home. I've become deeply involved in the community, and sit on our City Council.

You might say we want to have it both ways, but we believe Ely and Minnesota's "Iron Range" (and all of rural Minnesota for that matter) can be as connected and modern as any large city, while still maintaining our way of life. Broadband in any feasible form is a huge part of that.

I am posting this comment in support of the AT&T/T-Mobile merger because we need to create an environment that encourages and fosters this sort of investment in our communities. We need this to continue to compete for job creators. We need this to provide our kids with the best education whether they choose to stay home or not. And frankly, we need this sort of infrastructure for the safety of our families, for good rural health care solutions and to maintain our environment.

We're excited about what's next for our city for so many reasons. Not the least of which is the modern infrastructure coming from so many angles. The AT&T/T-Mobile merger can be a big part of that for us, and we'd strongly encourage you to quickly approve it.

Sincerely,


Gordon Shedd
Ely City Council Member

